Basic Combat Training

THE UNITED STATES ARMY
TRAINING CENTER, ARMOR

CO. D-6TH BN.

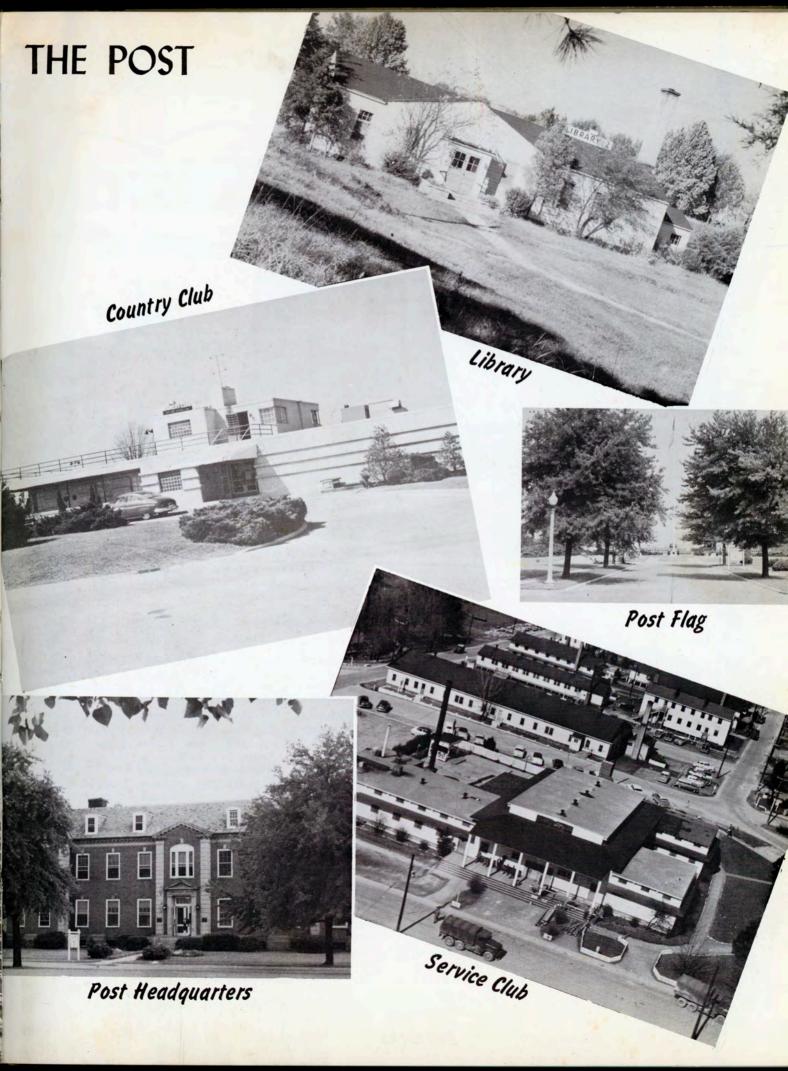






THE UNITED STATES ARMY
TRAINING CENTER, ARMOR
FORT KNOX
KENTUCKY







Major General Paul A. Disney assumed Command of the U.S. Army Training Center, Armor, on September 22, 1956, following a tour of duty as Commanding General of the 4th Armored Division at Fort Hood, Texas.

Born in Waltham, Massachusetts, on November 16, 1904, General Disney began his military career after his graduation from Norwich University, Vermont, in June 1927. That year, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Cavalry in the Officers Reserve Corps and received a Regular Army commission in October 1927.

A veteran of six major campaigns in World War II, General Disney served with the 2d Armored Division, commanding the 82d Armored Reconnaissance Battalion in the North African and Sicilian campaigns and the 67th Armored Regiment from the Normandy landing in 1944 to the Elbe River in Germany.

General Disney was G3 of the Cavalry School from December 1945 to August 1946. From July 1947 until May 1950, he was assigned to the G3 Section, Office, Chief of Army Field Forces in various capacities including Chief of Maneuvers and Special Projects Branch, and Chief of the Armored Branch. After graduating from the National War College, General Disney then served in the Pentagon in such posts as Chief, Strategic Logistics Branch, G4, and Assistant Chief, Plans Division, G4, Department of the Army.

In Korea, General Disney was assigned as Assistant Di-

vision Commander of the 25th Infantry Division in May 1954, and named to the same post in the 3d Infantry Division in August of the same year. In October 1954, he became Deputy Chief of Staff for Administration, Headquarters, Eighth Army (Forward). General Disney then served as Chief of Staff, Eighth Army (Forward) and Chief of Staff AFFE and Eighth Army in Korea from April to September 1955.

General Disney became Assistant Division Commander of the 4th Armored Division at Fort Hood in October 1955, and became Division Commander June 5, 1956.

General Disney has been awarded the Silver Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters and V Device for Valor, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Ribbon with Metal Pendant, French Legion of Honor, French Croix de Guerre with Palm, Korean Order of Military Merit Tacguk, and several campaign medals.

The U. S. Army Training Center, Armor, under General Disney's Command, consists of five Armor and Infantry training regiments and one Specialist Training Regiment. The overall mission of USATCA is to train Army of the United States and Reserve personnel in Basic Combat Training, Advanced Individual Training in both Armor and Infantry, and Basic Unit Training, also in both Armor and Infantry. In addition, selected individuals are trained in military occupational specialties such as Automotive, Clearical, Radio, and Supply.

HEADQUARTERS THE UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING CENTER, ARMOR OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY

TO THE PARENTS OF THE GRADUATES OF BASIC TRAINING

In this era of nuclear weapons, guided missiles and other modern tools of warfare, the most important element of National Defense remains the man who employs these tools. Man's natural habitat is the earth, and in war, he must eventually defeat his enemies by struggle on the ground. Hence the necessity for well-trained soldiers of the United States Army.

In combat the soldier faces many unnatural, difficult and trying situations. It is, therefore, essential that every man be thoroughly disciplined, technically qualified and physically, morally and mentally conditioned to survive on the modern battlefield. This has been the purpose of the military training you have received here at USATCA and will receive in the future.

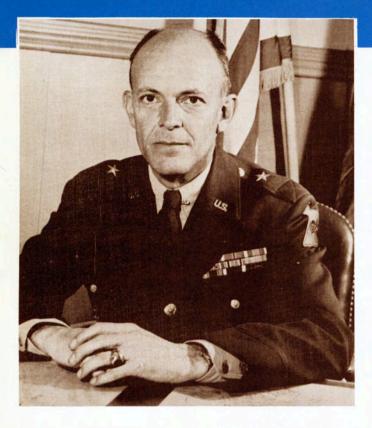
How much benefit you receive from such training, of course, depends to a considerable degree on how much you put into it. Here at the U. S. Army Training Center, Armor, a well-rounded program has been instituted to provide you with every opportunity to develop the attributes of a good soldier. We feel, too, that in many ways you will have developed a greater sense of responsibility; a greater awareness of the world around you, and therefore, will have become a better all-around citizen.

It is hoped that this book in the years to come will serve as a pleasant reminder to you of this brief period of your military service in USATCA, - and of the truth that soldiers are made, not born.

PAUL A. DISNEY

Major General, USA

Commanding





Brigadier General

SHERBURNE WHIPPLE, JR.

Deputy Commanding General

GENERAL STAFF

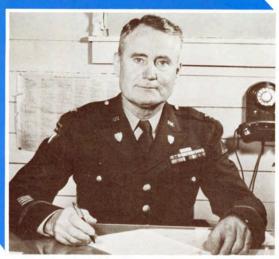


Colonel

PERRY E. CONANT

Chief of Staff





Colonel JAMES F. LEWIS Adjutant General



Major HAROLD W. KEYSER G-2



Lieutenant Colonel DORSEY H. CULLEN G-4



Lieutenant Colonel H. ROSS BRYAN G-1



Lieutenant Colonel CHARLES F. RYAN G-3



Lieutenant Colonel MERT M. LAMPSON Chaplain

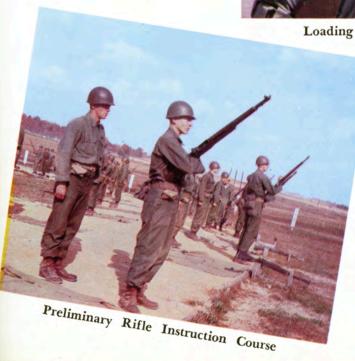


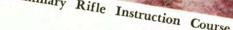
Union Under God

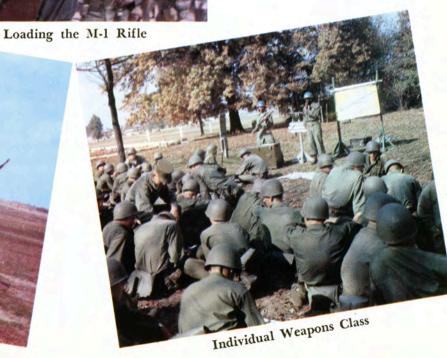
Physical Training Obstacle Course











Basic Combat

Basic Combat Training at the United States Army Training Center, Armor is a team endeavor, requiring the maximum of both the new trainee and his superiors.

The main purpose of Basic Combat Training is the development of qualified riflemen, whose individual talents will be supplemented later through more specialized instruction.

Four training regiments are responsible for administering Basic Combat Training to Regular Army, Selective Service and Reserve Forces Act personnel at the USATCA. Carefully screened officers and non-commissioned officers are entrusted with the mission of transforming young civilians into well-trained and disciplined soldiers, prepared for efficient and honorable service.

A very intensive program, Basic Combat Training covers over thirty major subjects-from military courtesy to squad tactics. Major emphasis, however, is placed on mastery of the M-1 rifle, the basic weapon of the Infantry. More than a week is devoted to handling, maintaining and firing the 9½ pound weapon, and the trainee finds that it is practically his constant companion throughout the training cycle. When he completes Basic Combat Training, the trainee realizes that his weapon is his "best friend" in combat.

In order to obtain the maximum from Basic Combat Training, a man's physical condition must be continually improving. This is achieved through daily participation in the "Army Daily Dozen"--a series of calisthenics designed to harden muscles, slim waist lines and increase physical stamina. In addition to intensive exercise, the trainee's physical condition is improved by good food and a well-balanced diet.

Trainees also receive instruction in such varied subjects as bayonet drill, first aid, interior guard duty, camouflage and concealment, mines and booby traps, signal communications, field sanitation, intelligence, night vision, battle indoctrination, map and compass reading.

They learn that combat, unlike a baseball game, is not postponed because of darkness or inclement weather. Combat conditions are simulated whenever possible and practicable, so that the men can be taught what to expect in the event of national emergency.

During the seventh week, trainees live in the field as combat soldiers. They "rough it" by sleeping in tents, eating outdoors from mess kits and waging a constant battle against the elements. The trainees also participate in mock battles against "Agressor" troops from their own company, who are dressed in different uniforms and instructed to attack and harass when least expected.

Approximately 220 men train together in a company, with each company broken down into four platoons, that occupy four barracks. Each platoon is

Mission Training

directly commanded by a platoon sergeant, a well-trained and highly-qualified soldier, who is usually a combat veteran of World War II or the Korean conflict. He is with his men from reveille to retreat and often during the evening hours for informal and instructive "bull sessions."

The platoon is also broken down-into four squads of about a dozen men. Squads are directed to fellow trainees with unusually high aptitudes and leadership qualities.

The squad and platoon systems instill in the trainees a pride in each of these units and there is always spirited competition for the designation of "best squad" or "best platoon." Trainees become endowed with a formidable esprit de corps and a sense of unit identification.

Instruction in the various Basic Combat Training subjects is given by specially trained officers and non-commissioned officers from regimental instructor groups. An instructor group is similar in structure to a college or university factulty, with each "professor" a specialist in his field, who also has the ability to pass on his knowledge to the trainees. In addition to formal instruction from regimental personnel, the trainees receive individual instruction from their platoon sergeants. Contrary to popular belief, the Army isn't an impersonal organization. Each trainee at USATCA receives all the individual attention necessary for the development of a competent soldier.

While Basic Combat Training is necessarily intensive, because there is a great deal to be taught in a comparatively short period, the men receive an ample amount of free time for recreation. Fort Knox is a large city with excellent recreational facilities. Men can participate in any sport, or read books from well-stocked libraries. There are large swimming pools and baseball and football fields near company areas. Convenient service clubs provide the trainees with excellent facilities for letter-writing, reading, listening to music and just plain talking. Weekly dances and shows are also held in each service club and the latest movies are shown at the post theatres.

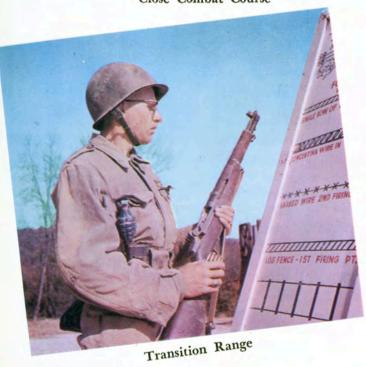
Trainees also visit nearby Louisville, a large, progressive community with impressive recreational and cultural facilities. Tours are also arranged to Mammoth Cave, the birthplaces of Abraham Lincoln and Daniel Boone, Stephen Foster's "Old Kentucky Home" and the beautiful Bluegrass Region.

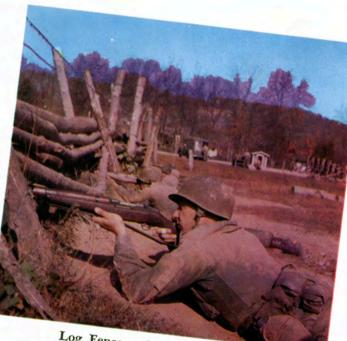
The trainee's spiritual life is highly stressed during Basic Combat Training at USATCA. Character guidance lectures from Training Center chaplains are an integral part of the training curriculum and the men are encouraged to attend services of their choice at one of the many post chapels. The chaplains are also available for individual discussions with the men at any time.

Thus, the Basic Combat Training program at USATCA may be considered two-fold. While the development of a well-trained soldier is naturally stressed, the development of a man is not forgotten. Upon completion of Basic Combat Training, the trainee is not only a trained rifleman; he is also a worthy citizen of his community and his nation.



Close Combat Course





Log Fence - Transition Range



Close Combat Course



Rifle Grenades



Transition Range



Physical training



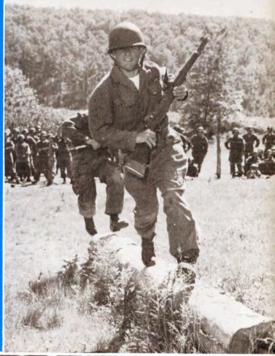
Combat Course



Hand Grenades











REGIMENTAL COMMANDERS



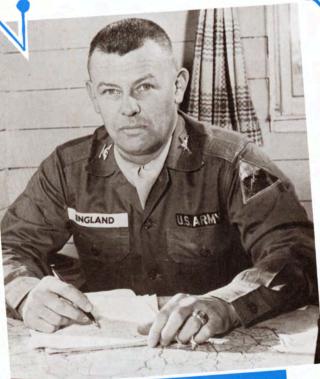
Colonel
J. L. ROGERS
2d Training Regiment, Armor



Colonel

ALLEN F. RICE

Training Regiment, Infantry



Colonel
GEORGE W. ENGLAND
4th Training Regiment, Infantry



Colonel
VINCENT M. HIDALGO
5th Training Regiment, Infantry



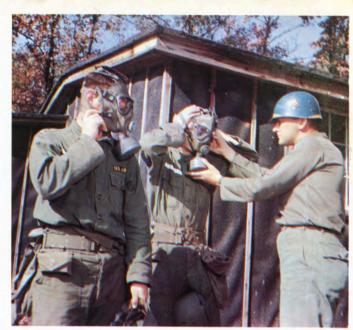
Map Reading



Gas Chamber



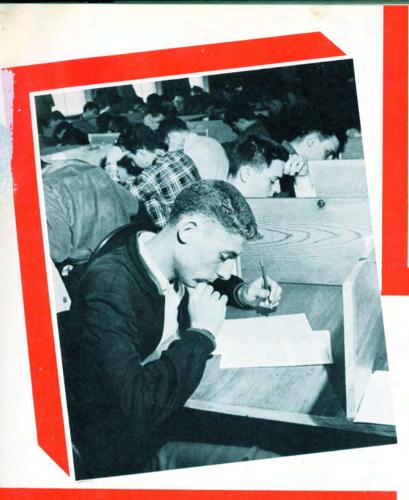
First Aid - Leg Splint



Gas Mask Drill



Squad Formation Class





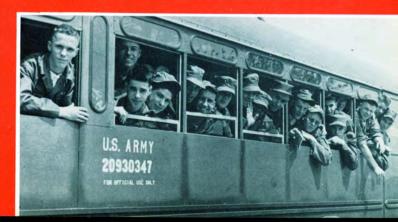
THE TROOPS ARRIVE AND PROCESSING BEGINS

PROCESSING—Before the training cycle actually begins, the trainees undergo what is known as processing. Clothing is fitted and issued; teeth are checked, fingerprints taken, immunization shots received and aptitude tests administered. In addition to its practical side, processing presents a gradual adjustment to Army life.













CLOTHING



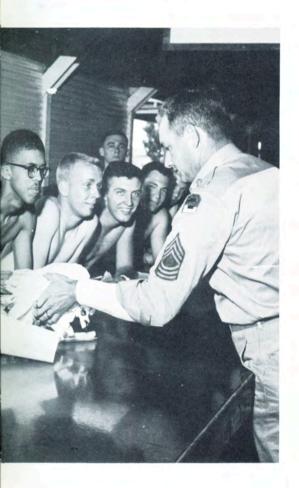








ISSUE

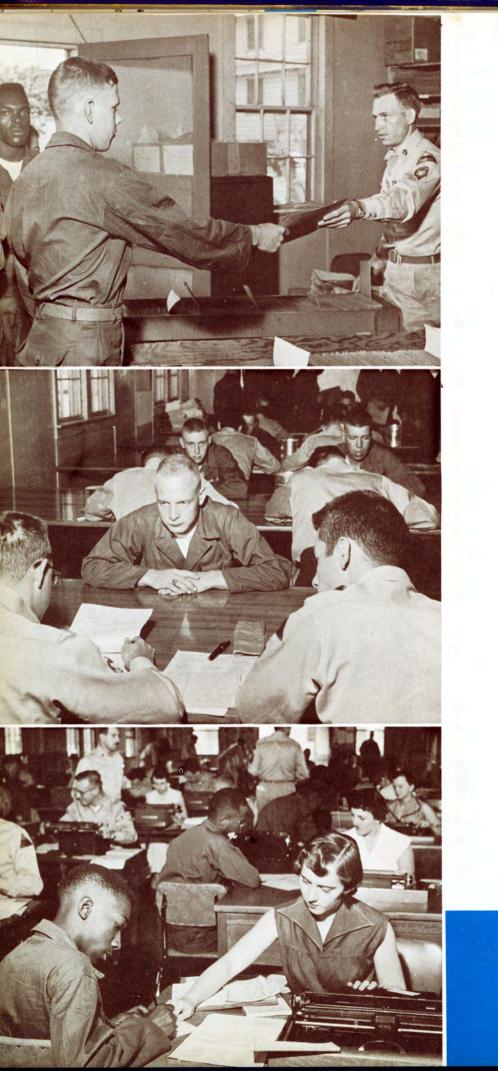






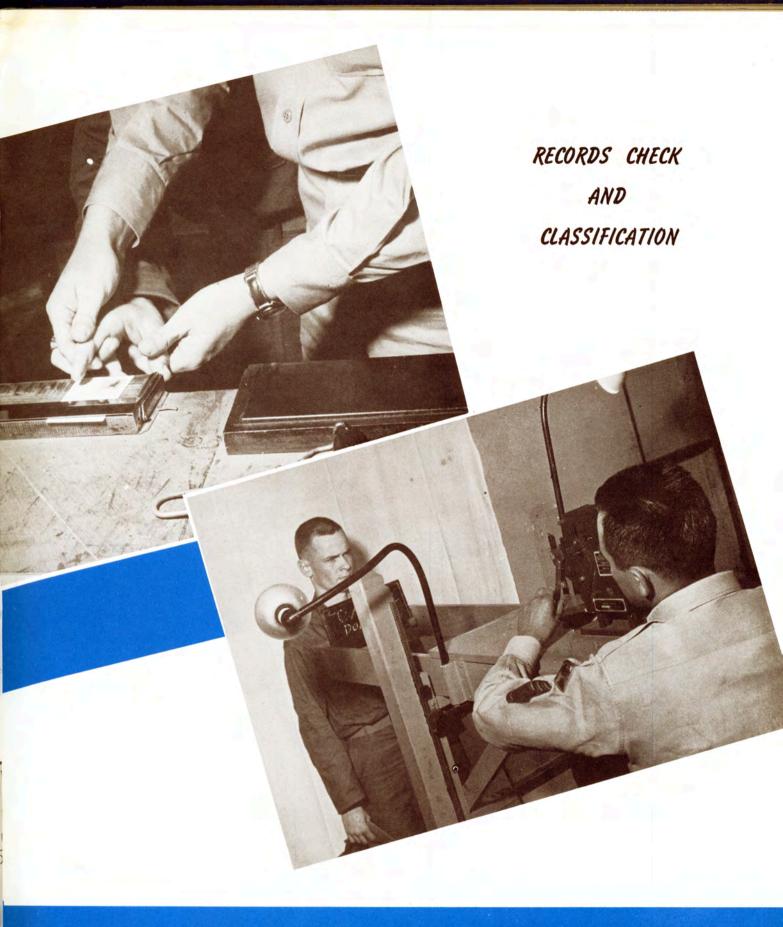








RECORDS CHECK AND CLASSI-FICATION—The Army strives to use every man in a field in which his talents may be best utilized and developed. Therefore, early in his military career, the trainee's educa-



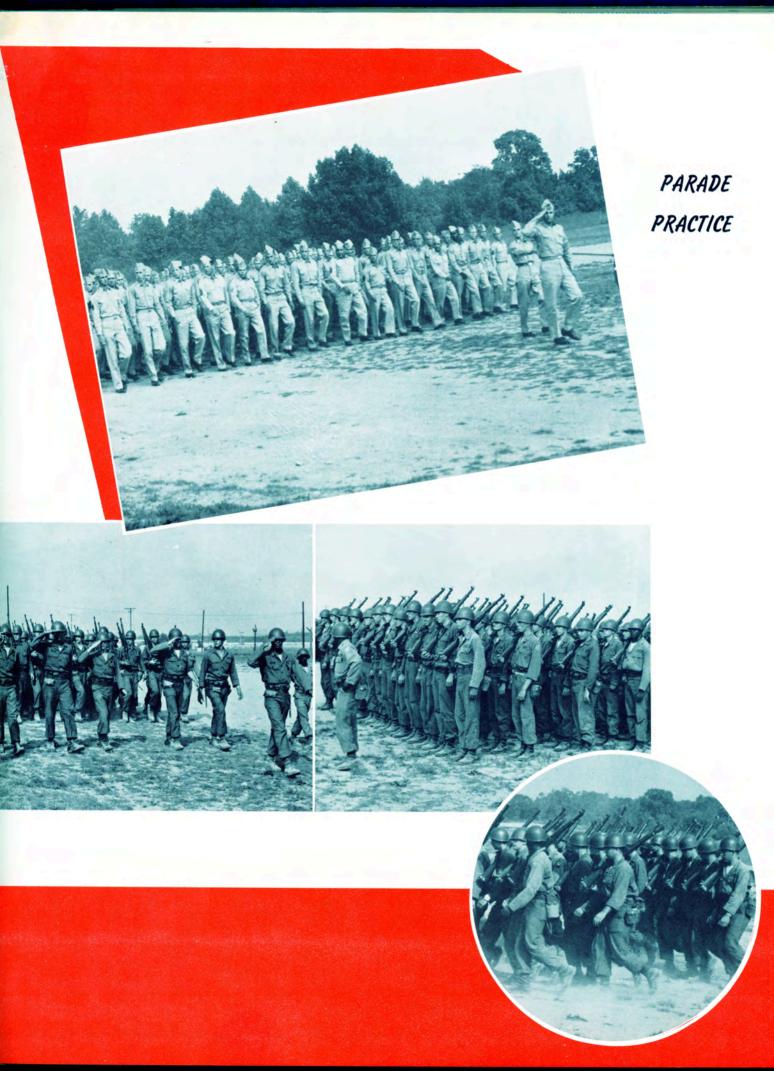
tion, training and work experience is carefully recorded for future reference. This information, supplemented by the results of aptitude tests help the Army choose the field in which the man will eventually serve.

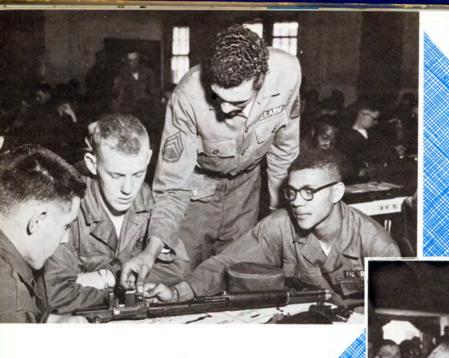


ING GENERAL'S

ORIENTATION

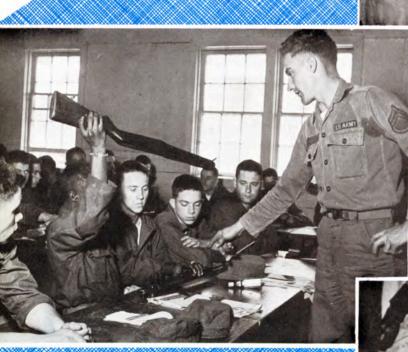




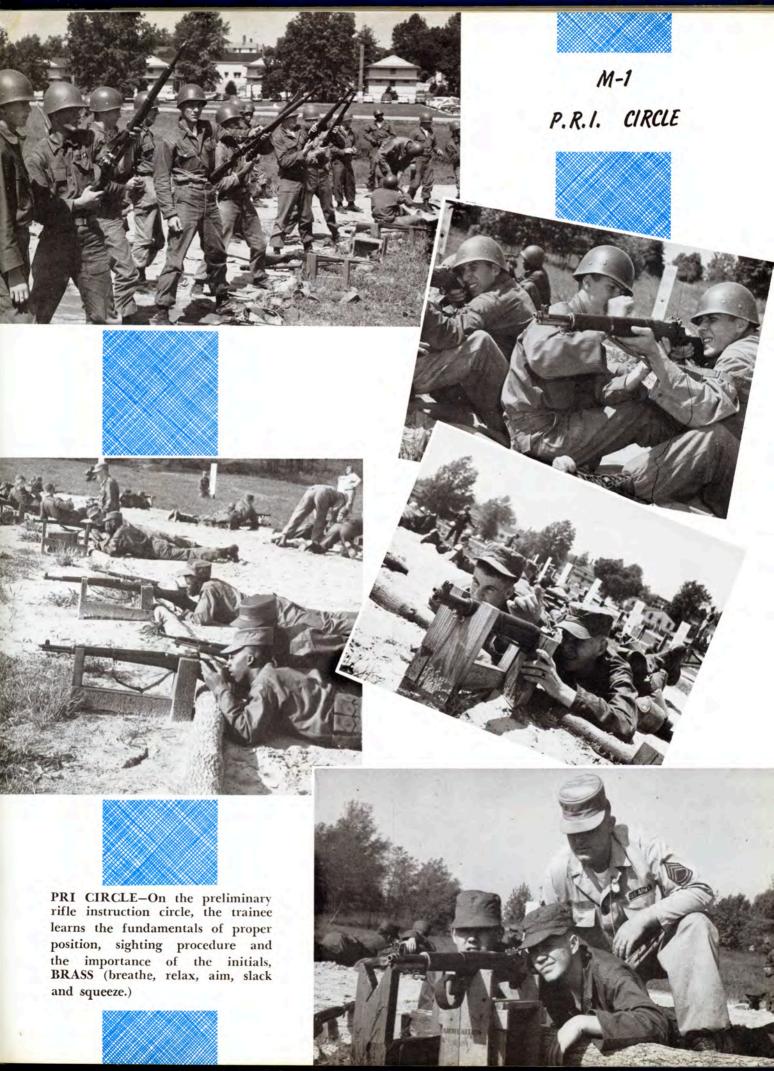


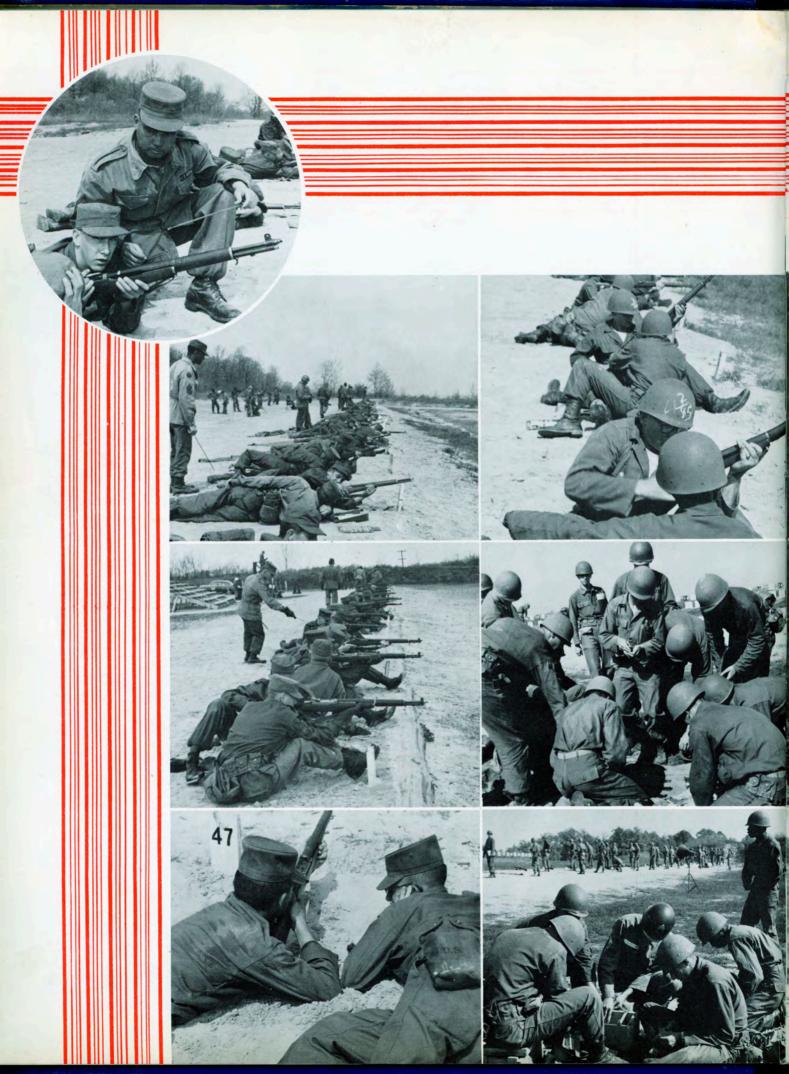
M-1 RIFLE—Learning to handle and maintain the M-1 rifle, the "soldier's best friend," occupies a large segment of the eight-week cycle, A soldier who knows the mechanics well, is in a position to become an expert when he actually fires the weapon on the range.

M-1 MECHANICAL TRAINING









K-D RANGE

K-D RANGE—After mastering the fundamentals, the trainees fire on the known distance range. They must attain a qualifying score on the range before they can successfully complete their basic training. The Army feels, with justification, that there's nothing quite so important in combat as the skillful use of the rifle.



M-1 TRANSITION RANGE





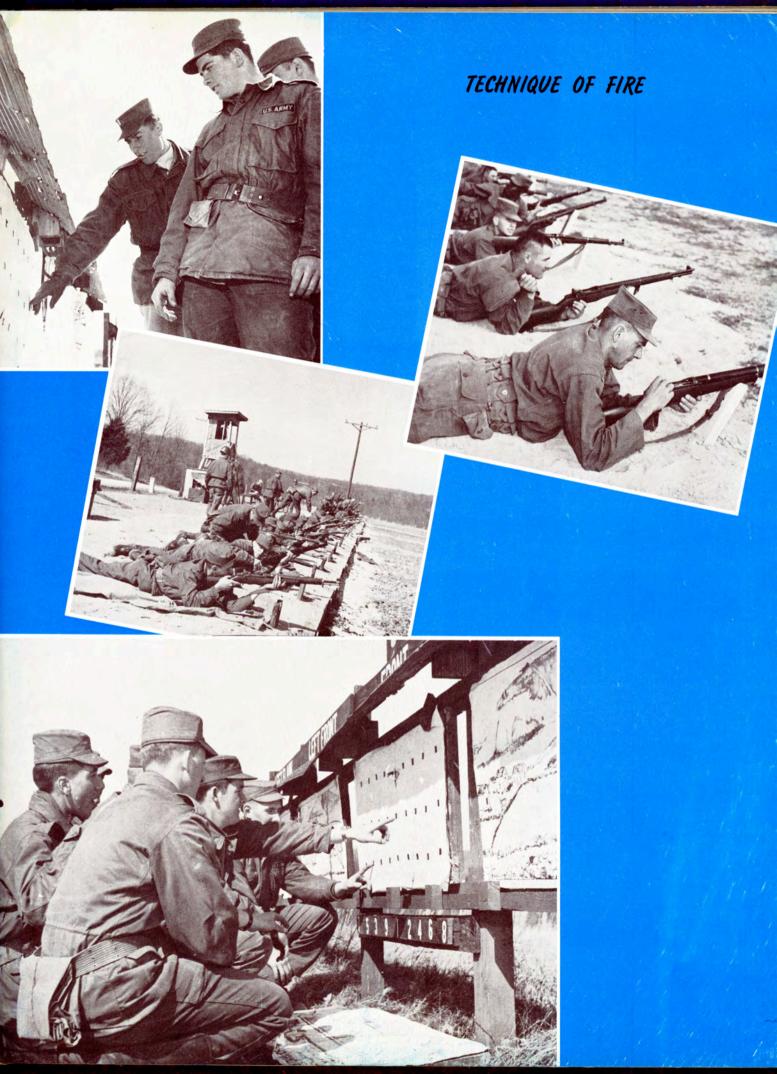


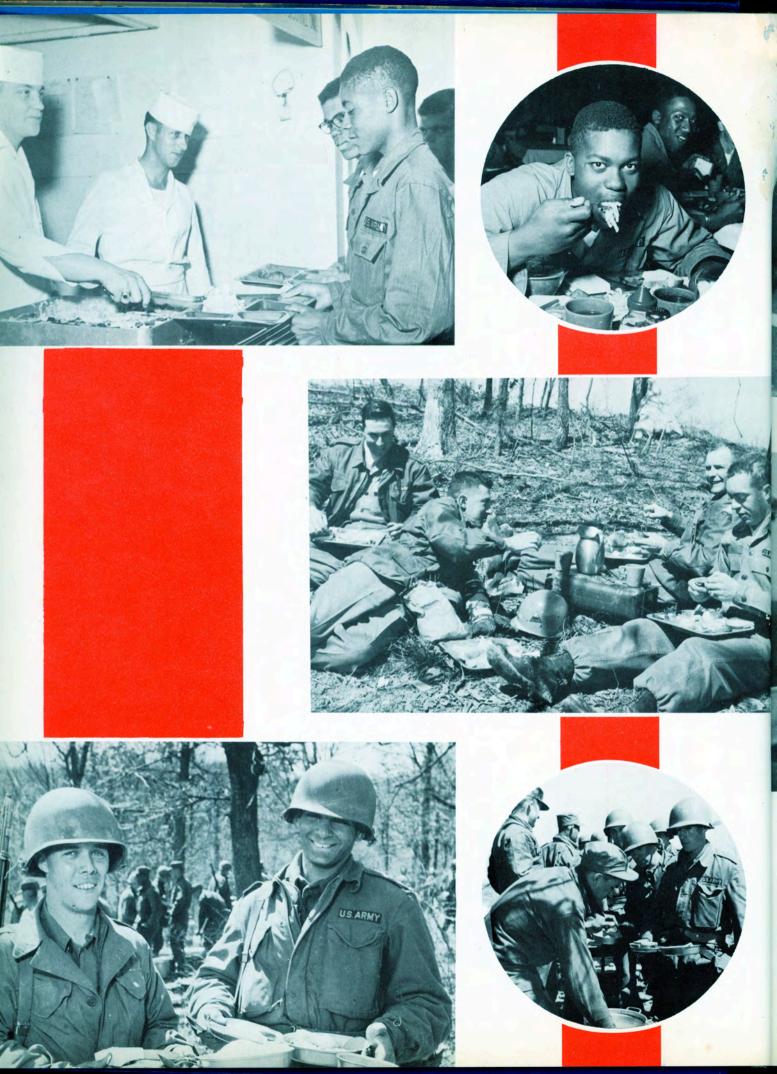


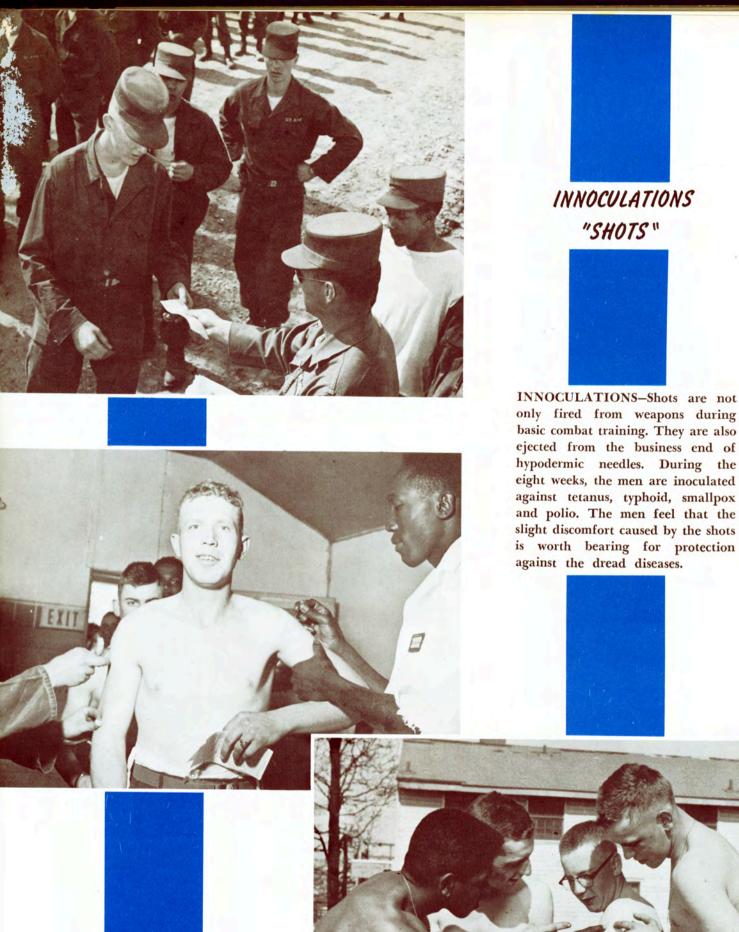




TRANSITION RANGE AND TECHNIQUE OF FIRE – The Transition Range and Technique of Fire exercises are provided as a means by which the trainee can be taught the use of his M-1 rifle as an effective weapon in combat. All types of covers are provided from which fire can be directed.







General Orders

- 1. To take charge of this post and all government property in view.
- To walk my post in a military manner keeping always on the alert and observing everything that takes place within sight or hearing.
- 3. To report all violations of orders I am instructed to enforce.
- 4. To repeat all calls from posts more distant from the guardhouse than my own.
- To quit my post only when properly relieved.
- To receive, obey, and pass on to the sentinel who relieves me, all orders from the commanding officer, officer of the day, and officers and non-commissioned officers of the guard only.
- 7. To talk to no one except in the line of duty.
- 8. To give the alarm in case of fire or disorder.
- To call the commander of the relief in any case not covered by instructions.
- To salute all officers and all colors and standards not cased.
- 11. To be especially watchful at night and during the time for challenging, to challenge all persons on or near my post, and to allow no one to pass without proper authority.



Guard

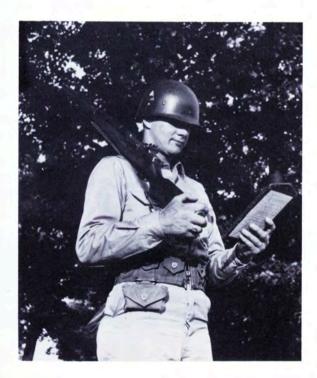
GUARD MOUNT AND GUARD DUTY – Guard duty is important. The manual for court martial provides severe punishment for violations of orders by sentinels and guards. There are eleven general orders to guide the trainee in performing guard duty. He must learn these word for word and understand their meaning.





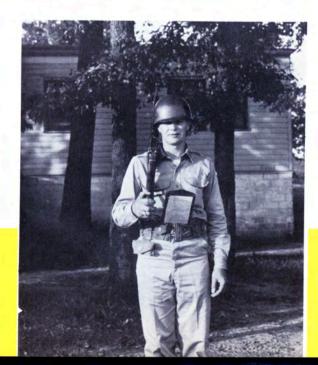
Mount

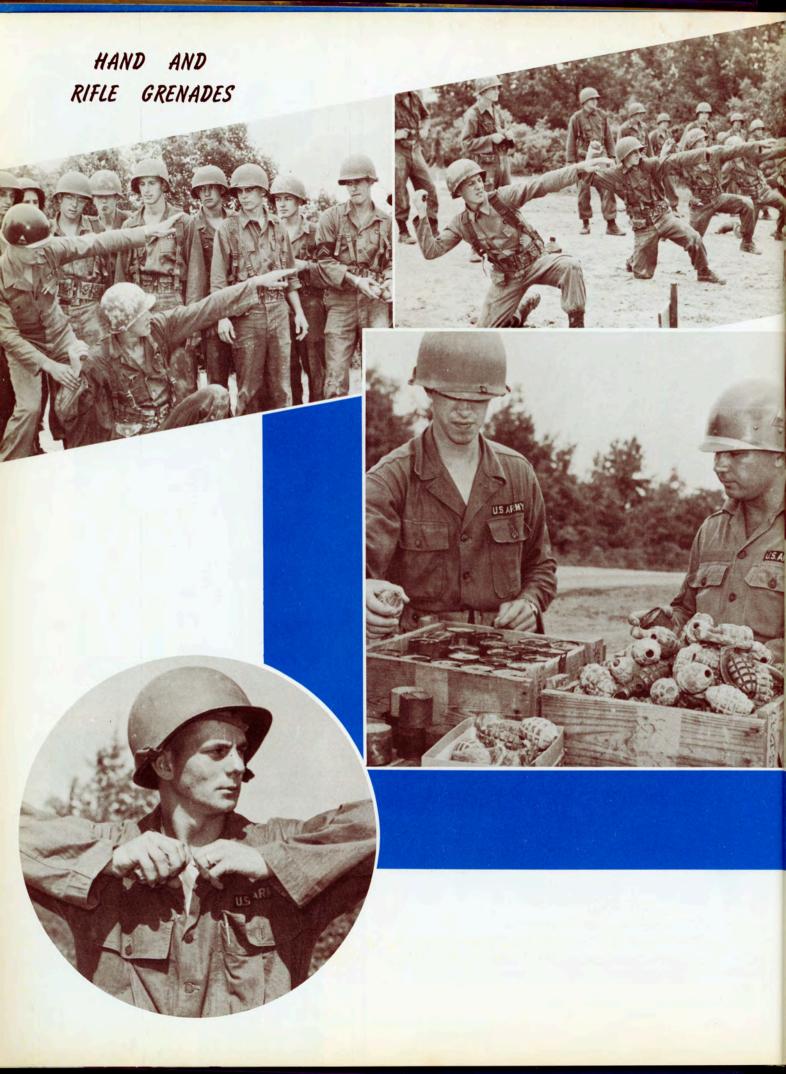








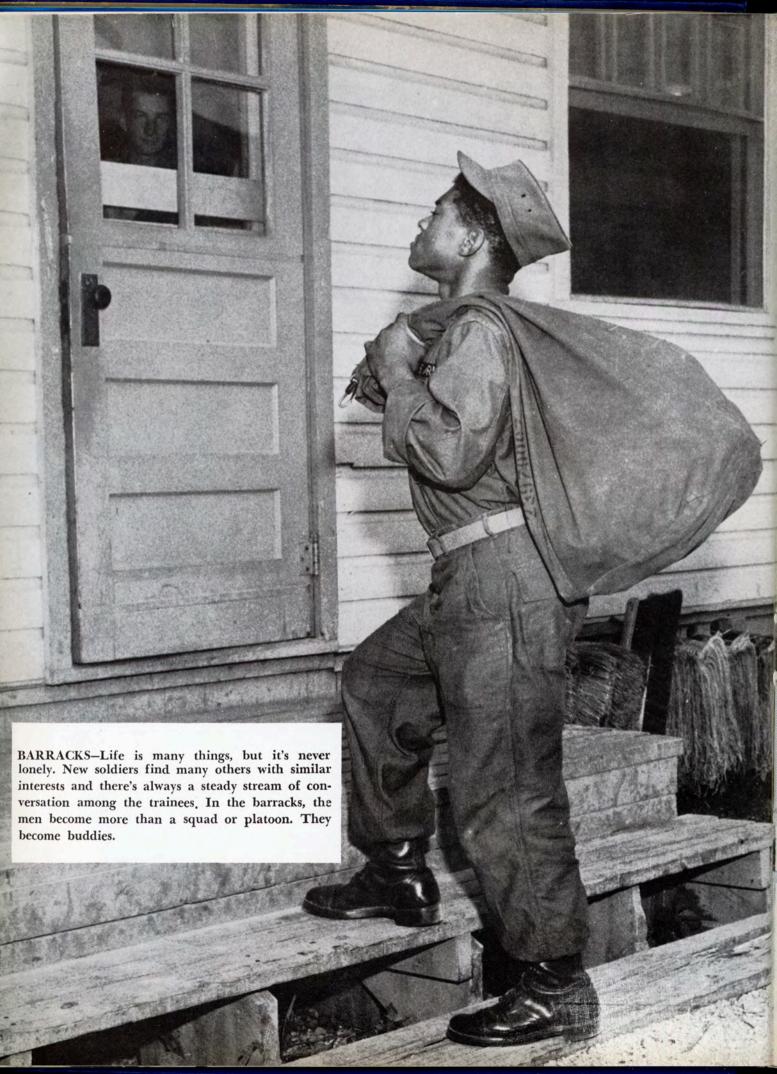






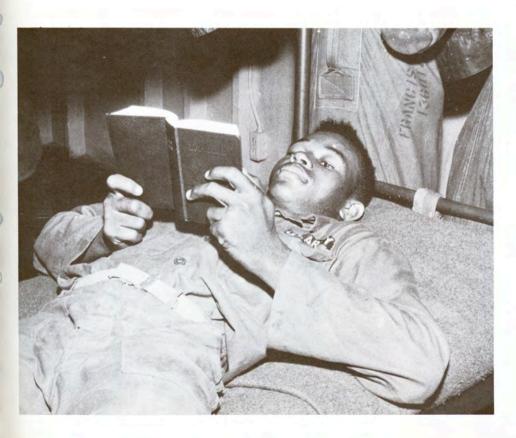






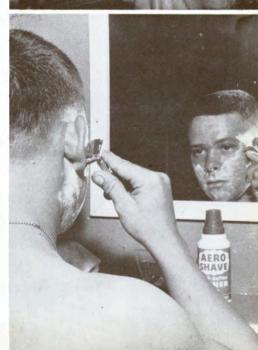
Barracks Life

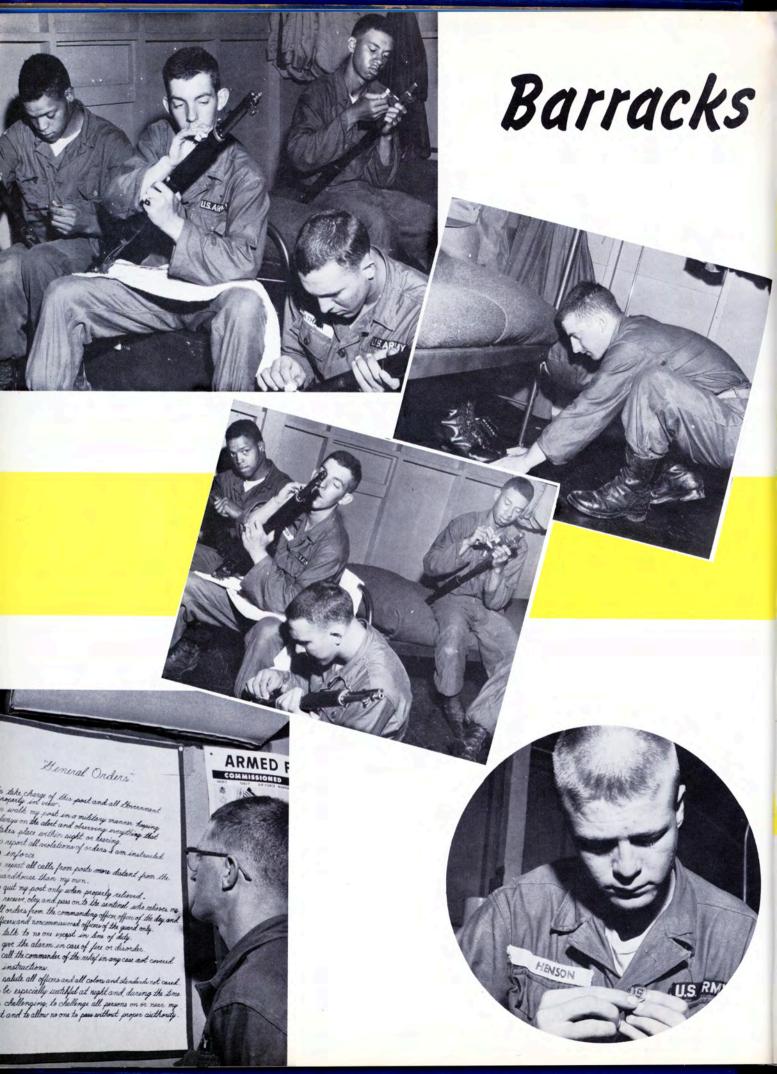




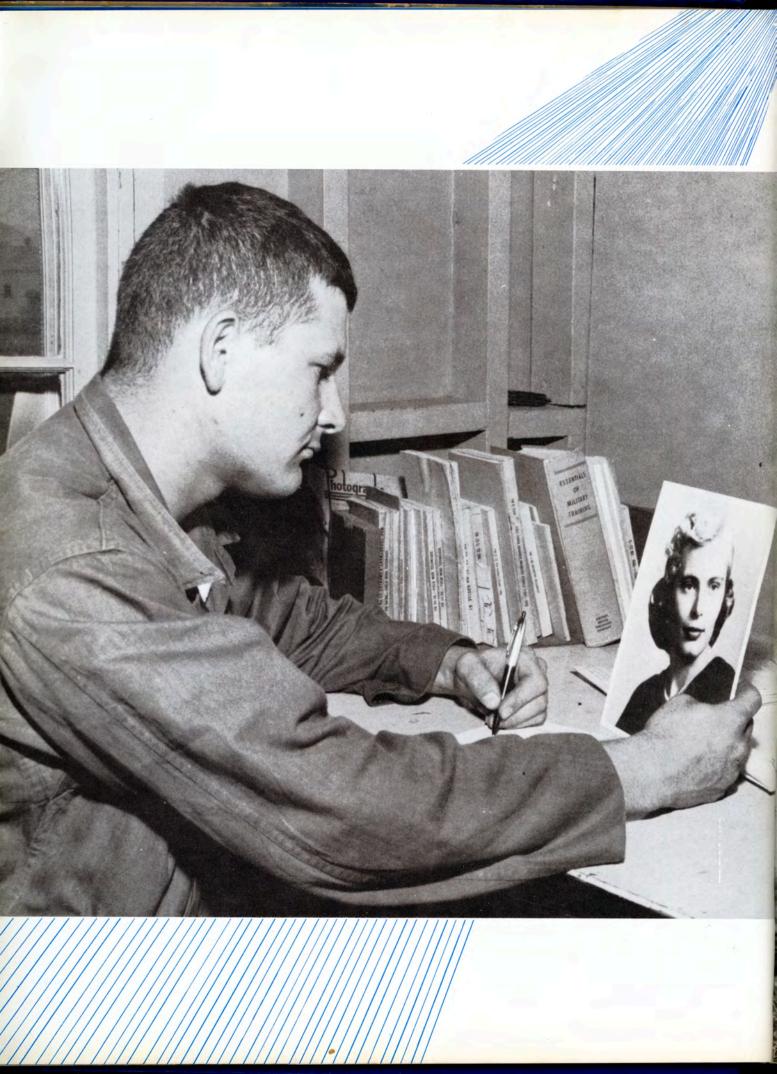












MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS





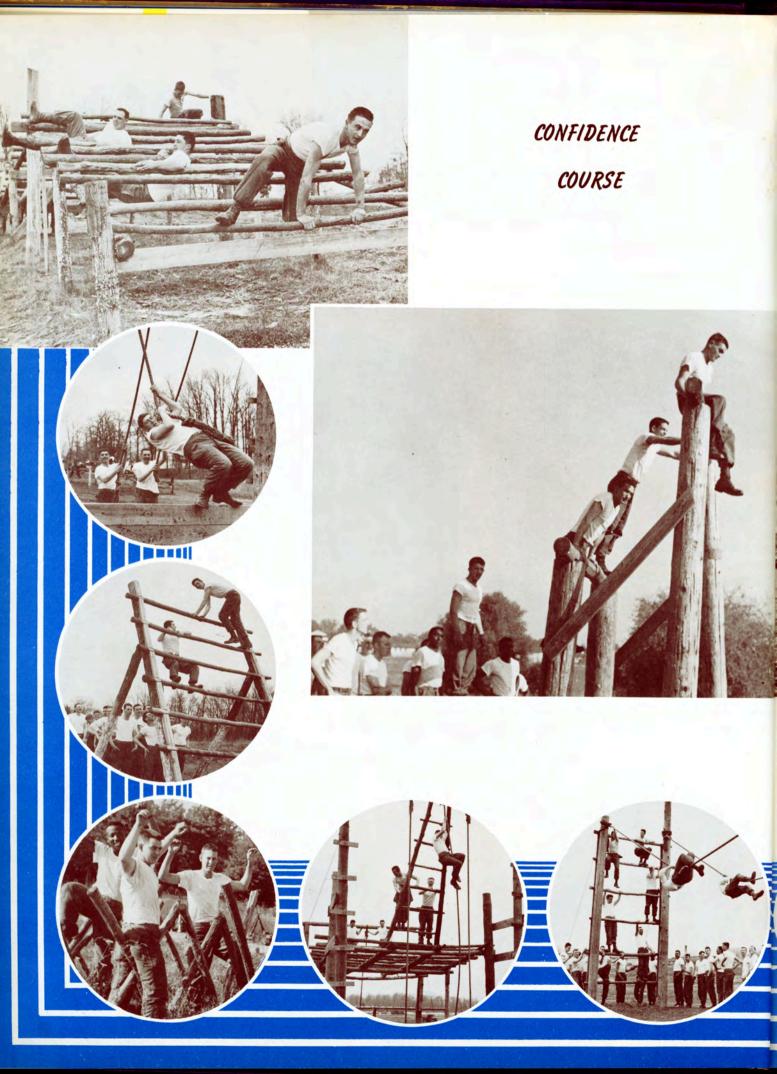
MINES AND BOOBY TRAPS—While the Engineers are specialists in mines and booby traps, every soldier must become familiar with their functions. Trainees learn the principles and techniques of mine warfare, types and functioning of various mines, trip flares and traps, plus disarming and probing for enemy mines.









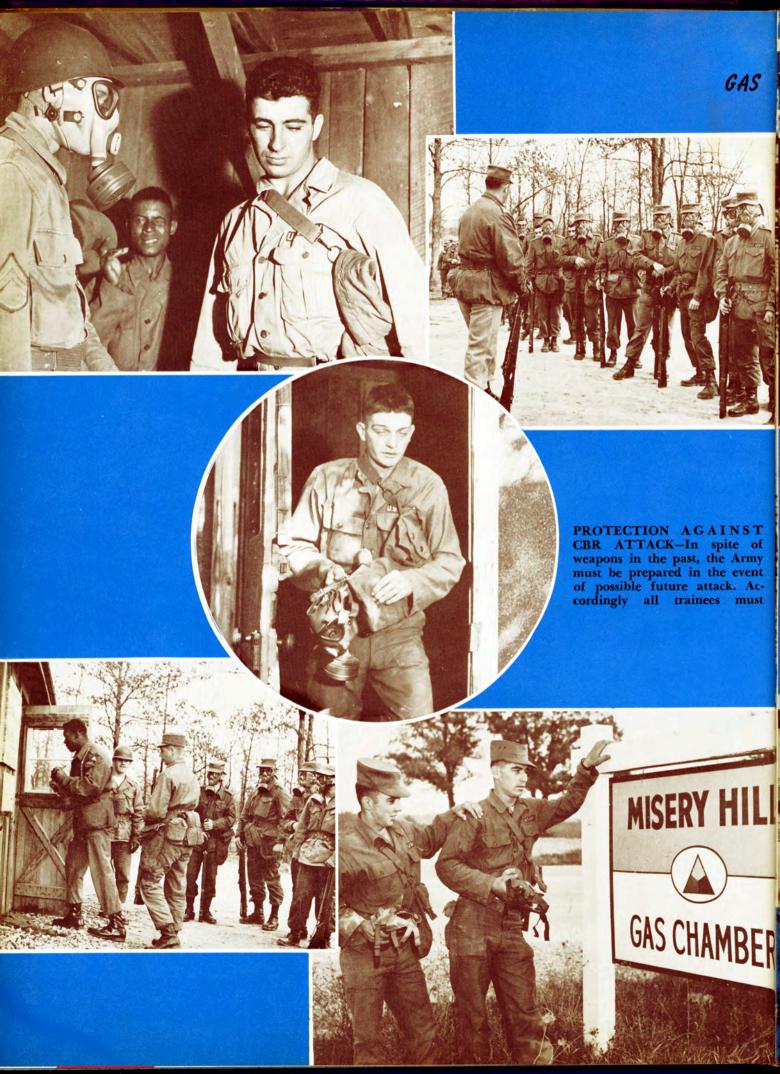




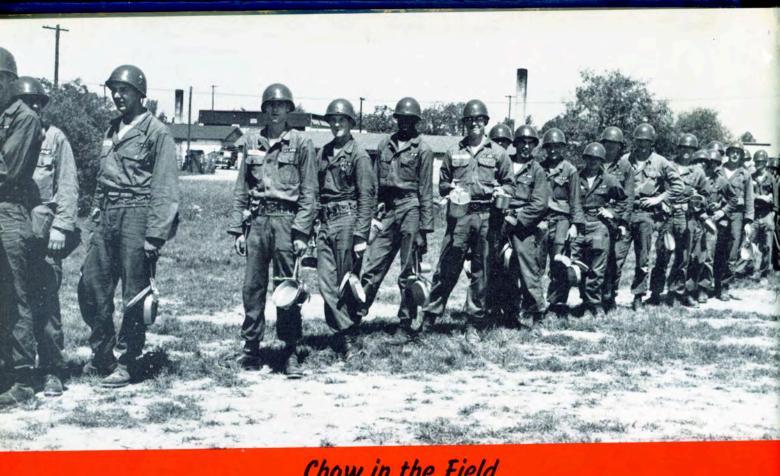
INFILTRATION COURSE

INFILTRATION COURSE — Probably the most realistic element of basic combat training is the rugged infiltration course, aimed at testing the individual foot soldier in tough terrain as a machine gun fires rounds just over his head. The course, run in daylight and at night, is designed to give trainees a lasting impression of actual combat conditions, and to ready him for its terrific demands.









Chow in the Field







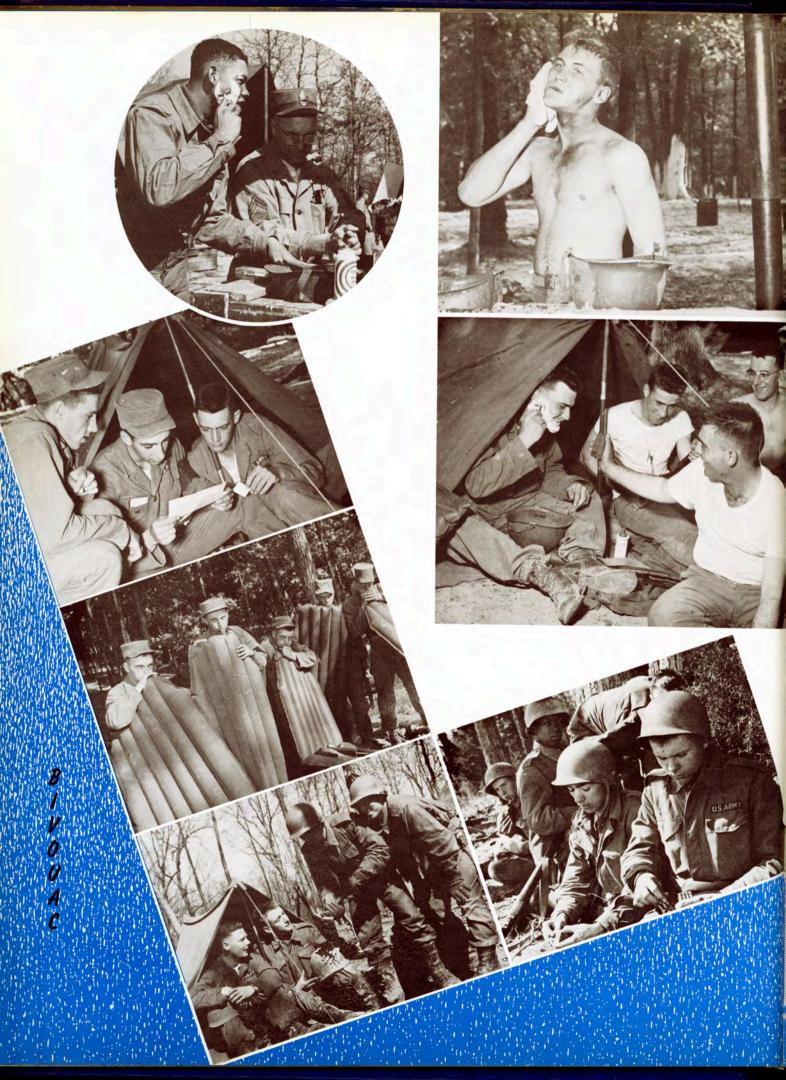


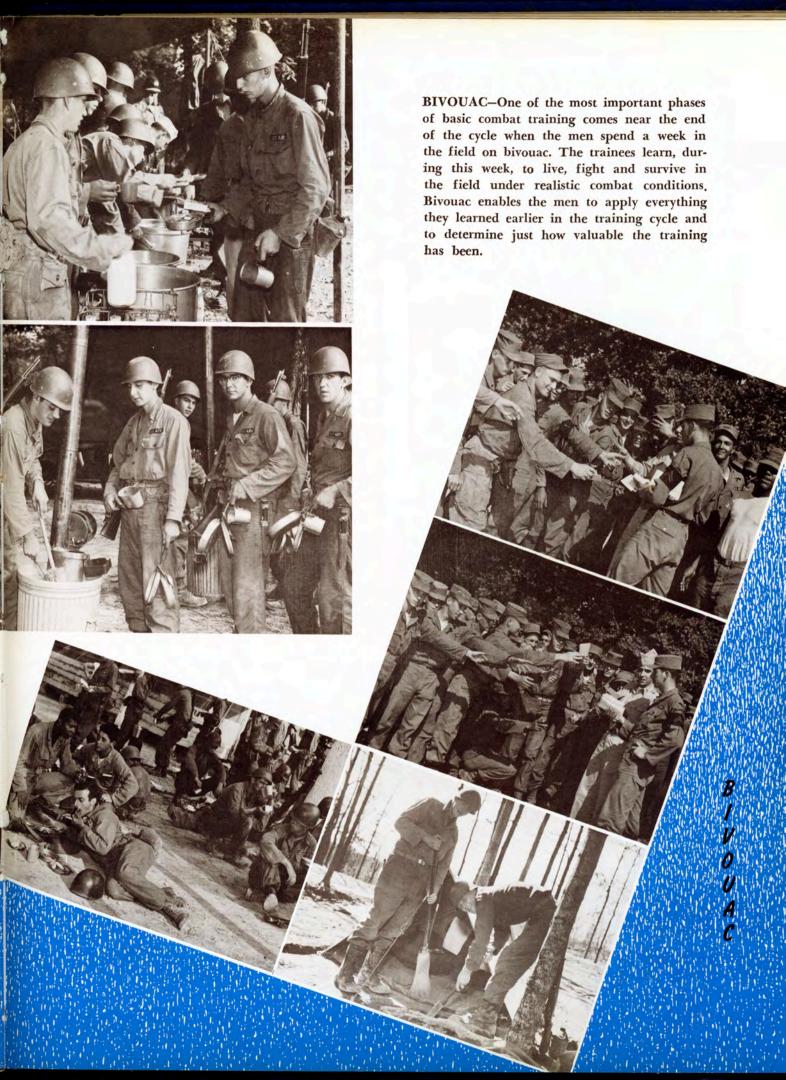


FIRST AID

FIRST AID—A soldier's life or the life of his buddy may depend on the quick application of first aid. The importance of training in first aid was proven during World War II and the Korean conflict, when many men survived because their buddies knew how to give them necessary aid.













Inspe

Barracks











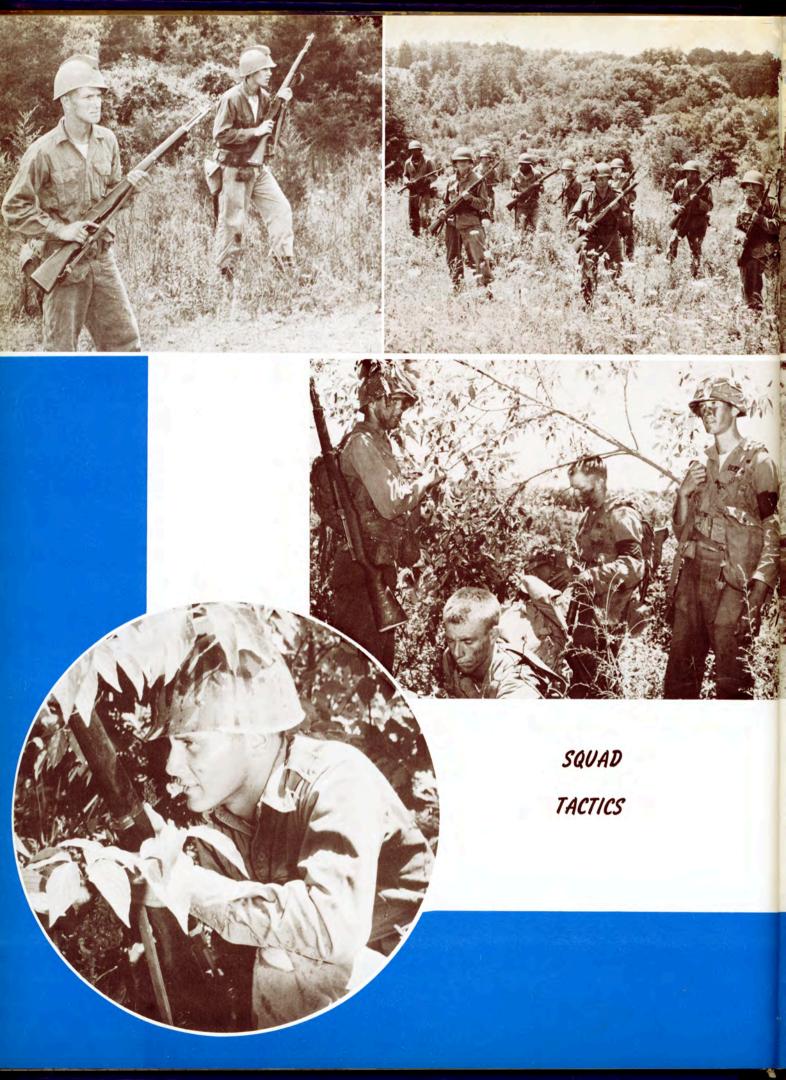
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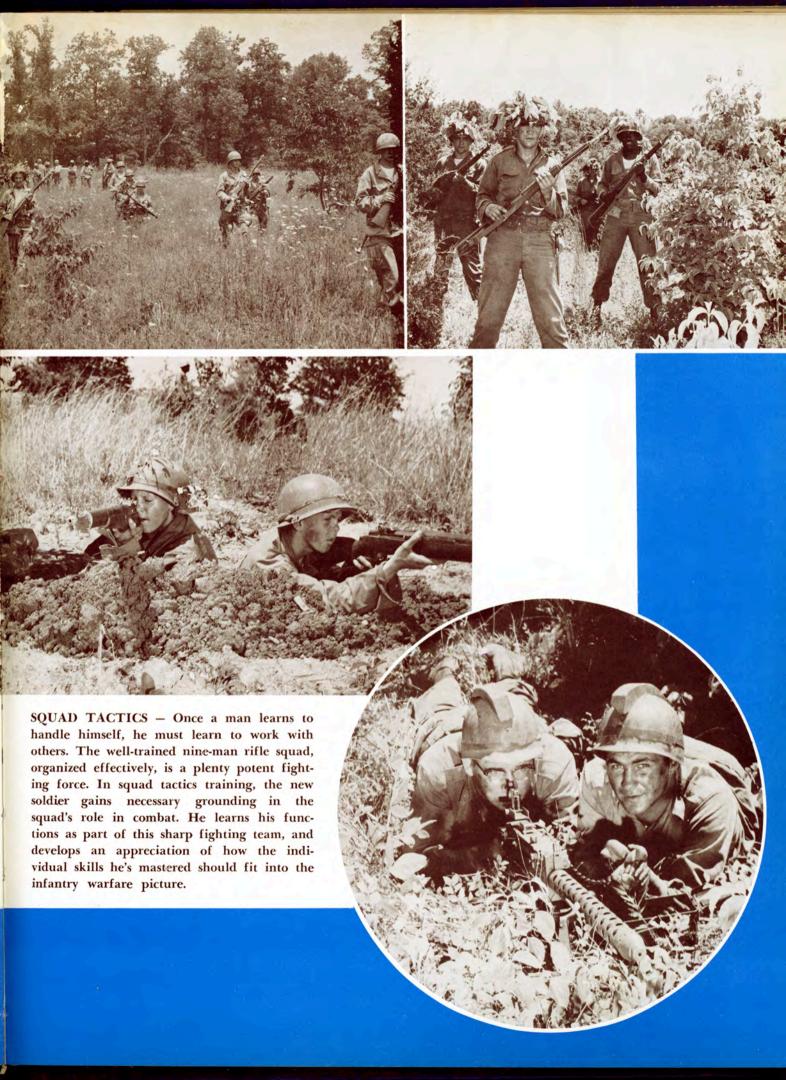
Full Field

















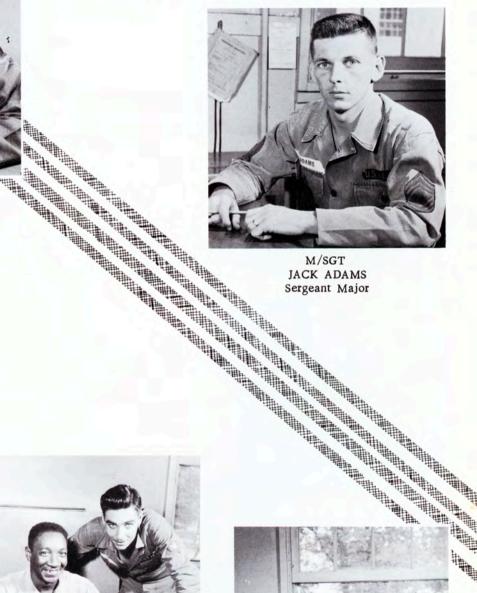
GRADUATION



MELVIN

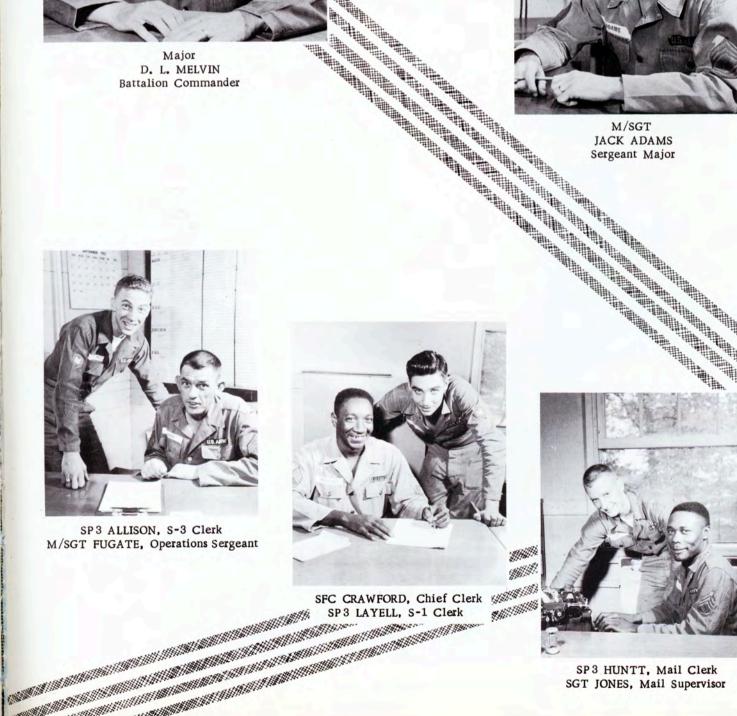
Major D. L. MELVIN Battalion Commander

Headquarters 6th Battalion 3d Training Regiment, Infantry





SP3 ALLISON, S-3 Clerk M/SGT FUGATE, Operations Sergeant



SP3 ...eLL, S SP3 LAYELL, S-1 Clerk



SP3 HUNTT, Mail Clerk SGT JONES, Mail Supervisor



1st Lieutenant TERRILL N. HUFF Company Commander



PVT HATALSKY, Clerk SFC FOLTZ, Supply Sergeant



SP2 LIGHTFOOT SP2 SANDERSON SFC KEEHN, Mess Sergeant Mess Hall

Company A 6th Battalion 3d Training Regiment Infantry



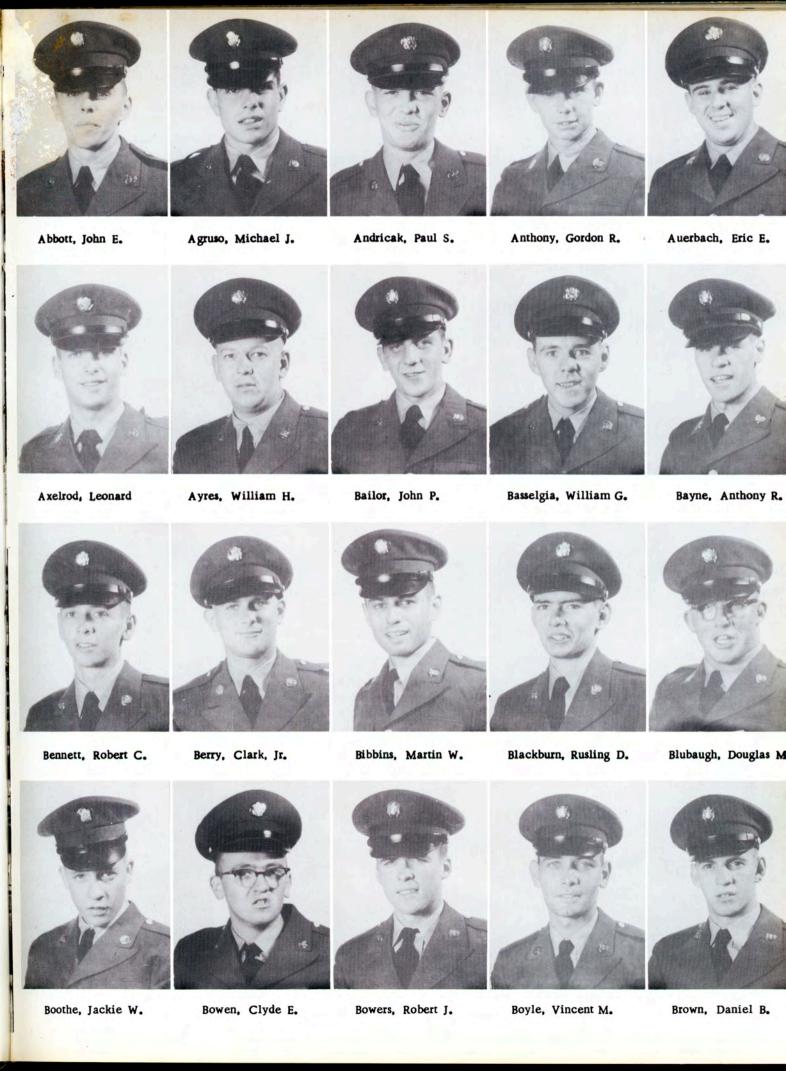
M/SGT
J. D. LITTRELL
First Sergeant



SP3 HUNT Company Clerk



SGT DEARBORN, M/SGT HICKMAN, Field First Sergeant; SGT SZOLEK. Field Cadre





Davidson, Dan D

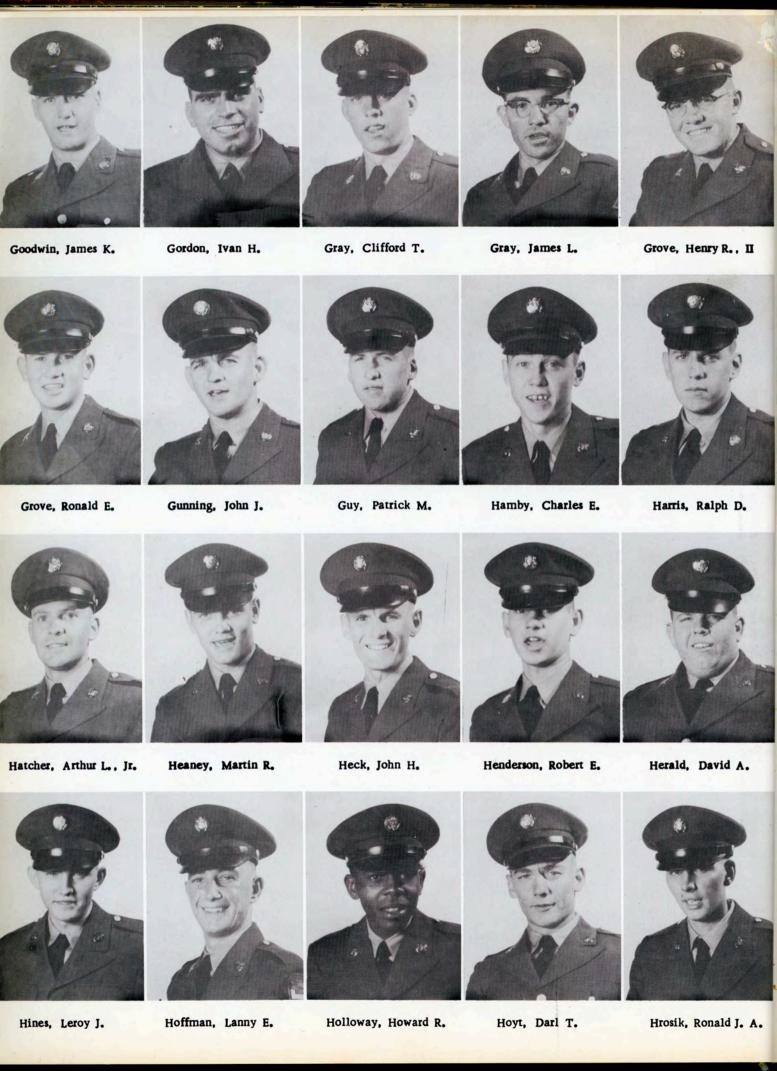
Davis, Roger E.

Dernoga, Robert C.

DeRoche, Robert J.

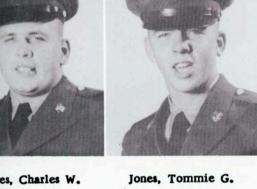
Deshner, Harold E.



















Jones, Charles W.

Kalabus, Edward A.

Kennedy, Wayne L.



Kline, Ronald P.



Klingensmith, Norman



Kokay, Ronald J.



Lacy, William A.



Lamacchia, Nicholas



Leach, Fred G.



Lebowitz, Gerald



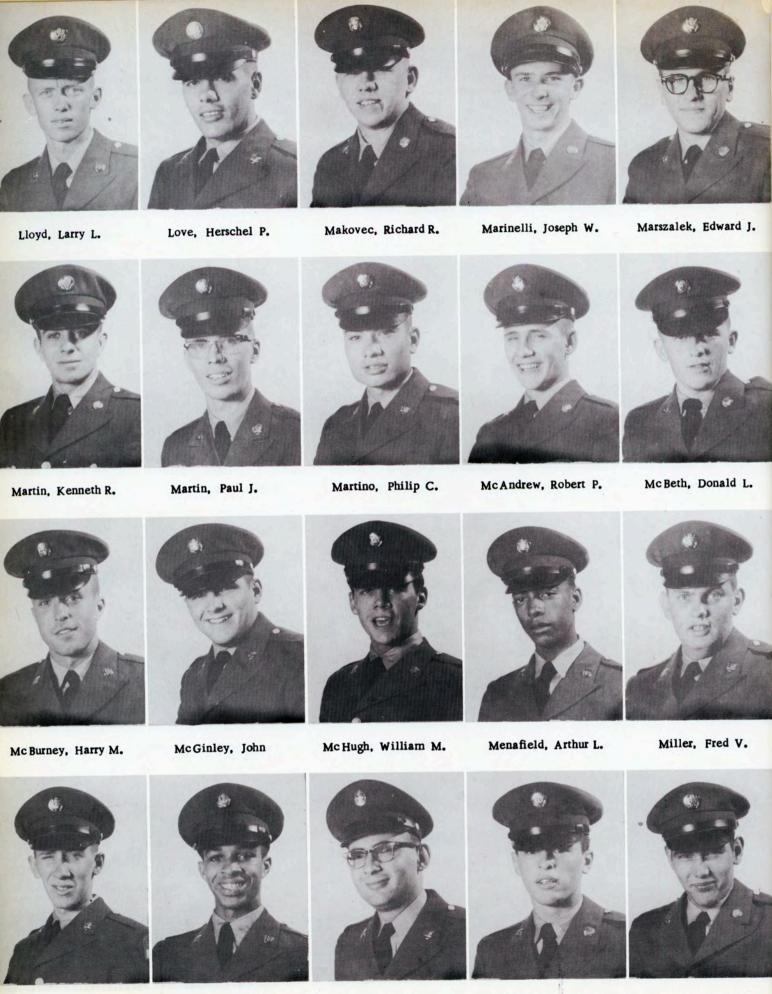
Leinart, Richard A.



Leonard, William B.



Link, Gilbert D.



Miller, Gordon C. Mills, Thomas A. Mintz, Leon R. Monzingo, Robert M. Moore, Sampson









Szymanski, Bernard F.



Tatro, Stanley L.



Taylor, Robert E.



Then, Charles A.



Thompson, Bobby W.



Timberman, Vern L.



Titus, Thomas J.



Troutman, Thomas J.



Turner, Charles H.



Watson, Howard



Watson, Robert M.



Weaverling, Philip P.



Weist, David S.



West, Richard L.



West, Richard L.



Wheeler, Richard K. Whitacre, Garland W.



Whitaker, Charles C.



Whitman, Jerry D.



Wilson, Dale E.



Wilson, Minos J.



Wolf, Walter M.



Wollett, Neil B.

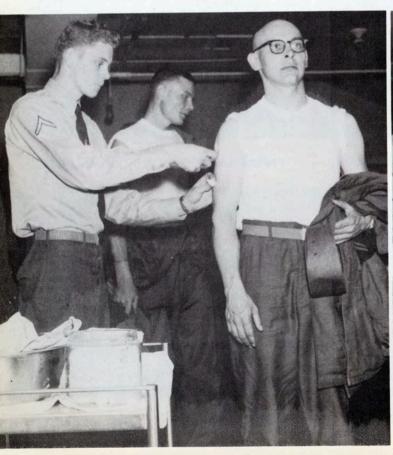


Wozencraft, Ivin L.



Zinnamon, Stanley I.

Shots

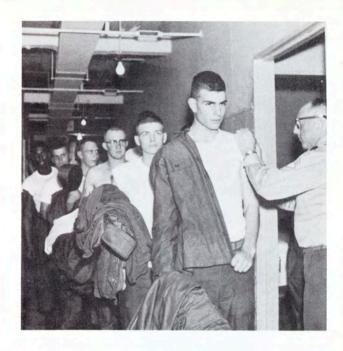




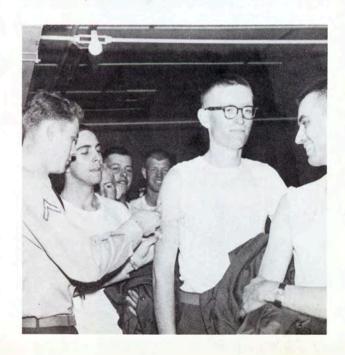


















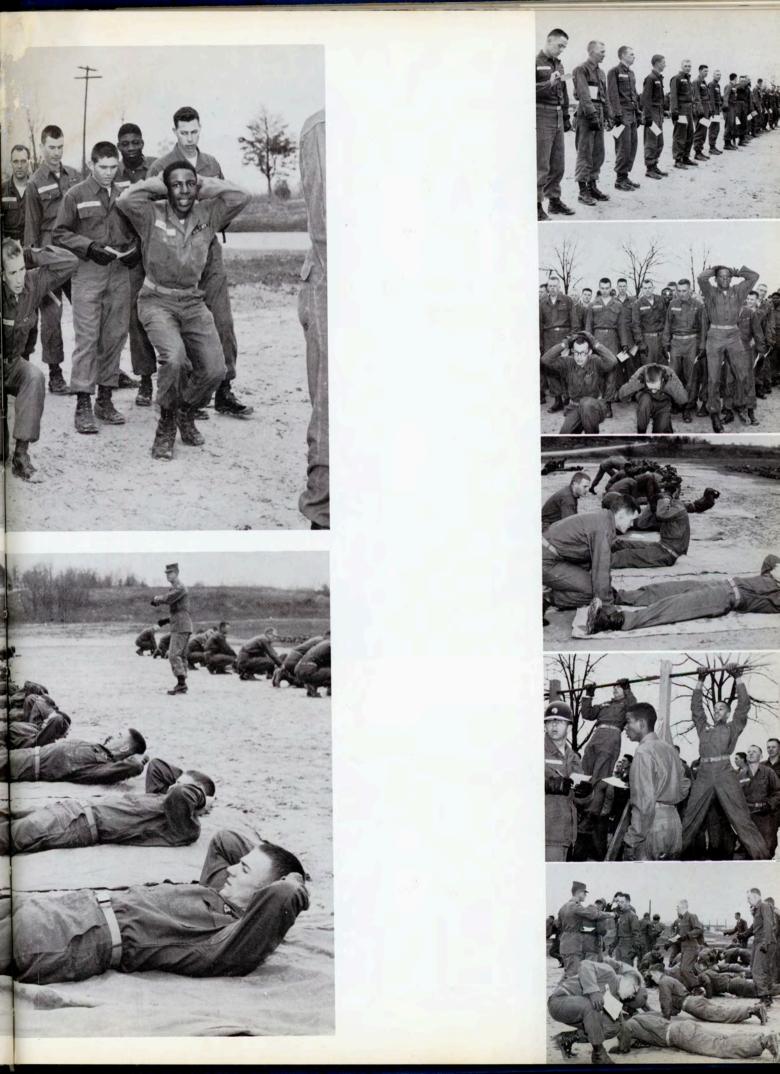




Physical Training Test











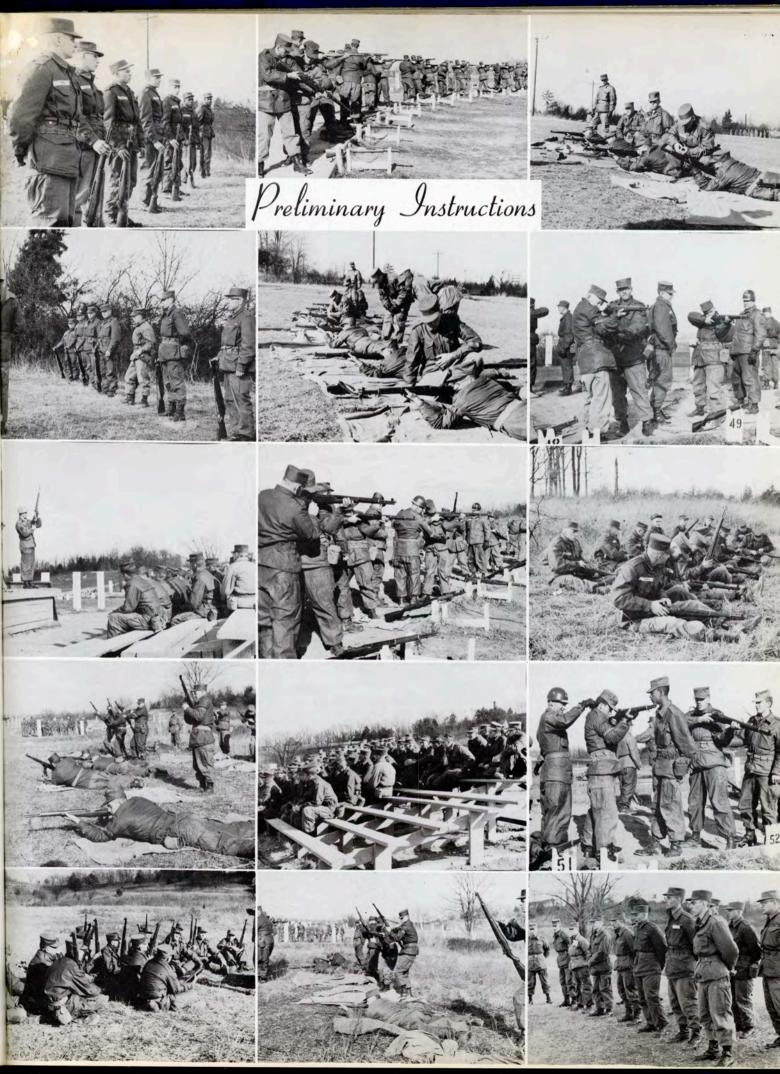
Dismounted Drill

















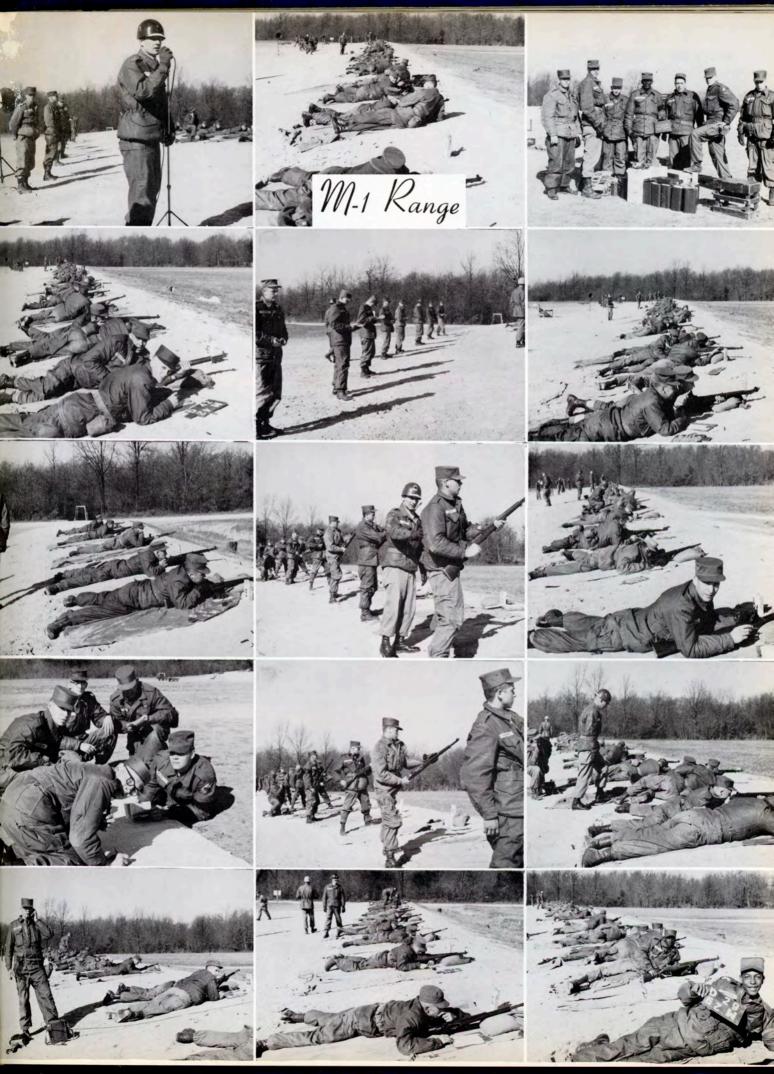
Chow in the Dining Hall

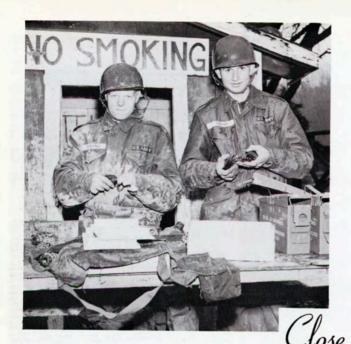








































1000" Range













Transition Firing











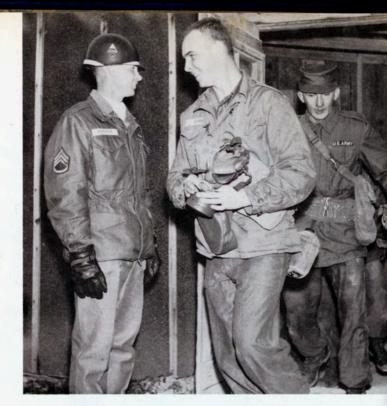












Gas Chamber











Hand and Rifle Grenades































Chow in the Field











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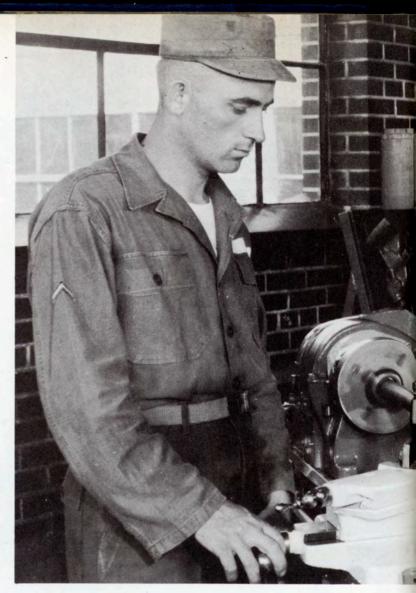
7











MAKING TIME



THROUGH JOB TRAINING

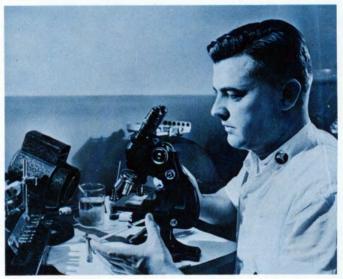
One of the greatest opportunities that lies ahead is the chance for each soldier to become a skilled expert in his field through Army job training.

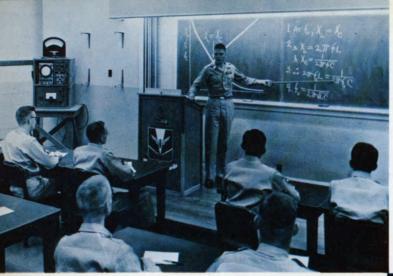
Some of the soldiers in this class will be sent to Army schools, where over 500 technical courses are taught—everything from finance to atomic weapons. These Army students will get top professional training, learn by using the most modern equipment, the best facilities in the world.



Others will find they can learn their job best through on-the-job training. In this case, they will learn by doing, supervised by men who know the requirements of the job from the ground up.

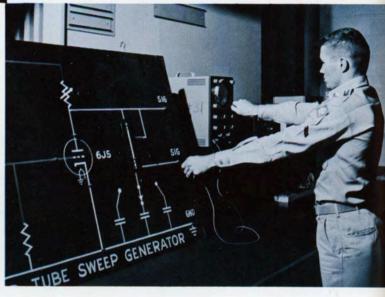
Whatever his job assignment and whatever type of training he receives, each soldier in this class will become a specialist at his duties, with the skill that assures a job well done.





MAKING TIME





THROUGH EDUCATION

Besides the job training each soldier will receive, he will also be able to pursue his formal education while in the Army. The United States Armed Forces Institute conducts the largest correspondence school in the world and has helped thousands upon thousands of soldiers get their high school diplomas. The Army has also arranged with many civilian schools and colleges to permit soldiers to attend courses in their off-duty hours, thus even making it possible for an ambitious soldier to get a college degree. In addition, there are Education Centers in hundreds of Army posts which daily teach subjects the soldiers themselves have asked for. The Army has found that the greater an education a soldier has, the greater contribution he makes to the Army itself. This is why the Army urges each soldier to carry his education forward as far as possible.





Every soldier grows in the Army ... grows not just physically but grows into a new maturity. The spiritual and moral growth of its men is of utmost importance to the Army. The opportunity for a soldier to worship in his own religious faith is a fundamental part of Army life.

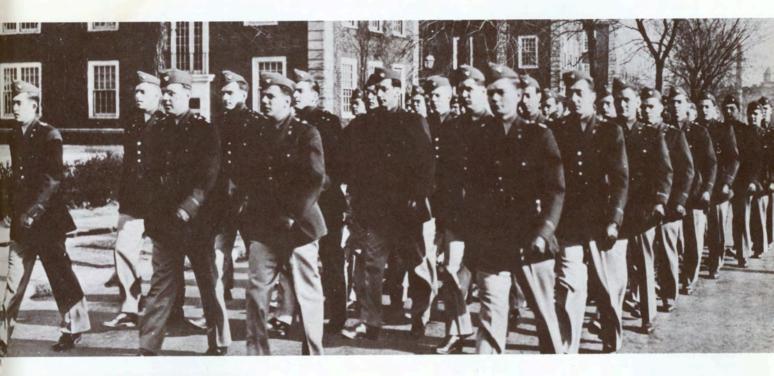
MAKING TIME THROUGH CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT





Besides the active programs conducted by Protestant, Catholic and Jewish chaplains, each stands ready to counsel any soldier with his religious or personal problems.

Army discipline has its basis in self-control, self-respect, self-reliance, honor and honesty. This discipline creates clean-minded, clean-living soldiers who are aware of the responsibilities of good citizenship.





MAKING TIME THROUGH -

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Army hopes each soldier will climb up the leadership ladder. While every soldier cannot become an officer, each man has an equal chance and each is given promotions as they are merited. The Army's Officer Candidate Courses are always open to properly qualified enlisted men. As each soldier becomes capable of handling greater and greater responsibility, his self-confidence increases and so does his stature as a leader.





out his Army career.

Even greater opportunities will be available to your son if he reenlists at the end of his present term. He will have an opportunity to choose his technical training, his branch of service or his travel-new opportunities to plan a rewarding the Army offers . . . benefits that increase with service. The Army provides a rich and rewarding future . . . a career worthy of the most serious consideration by both you and your son.

But for now . . . feel confident that as your son moves out of basic training he is sure to make time, not mark time, in the Army!

Autographs

Your Command has made it possible for you to obtain a copy of this publication. Every effort has been made to portray with words and pictures the interesting places and major activities in which you participate during your training period. Credit is hereby given for the use of certain Signal Corps photographs. Miller Publishing Company is proud to have had a part in planning and producing this book. We hope that you are pleased with it. We believe you will prize it more highly with the passing years. Publisher's Staff Irving Kimmel Field Editor Photographers Donald Bowman Michael A. Vowels Art Director David S. Knox Layout Department Lorie Benrubi Eunice Roulston Billie Drennan La Verne Roulston Jewell Lamas Margaret Smeltz Colleen Knowlton Margaret Smith Hazel Thomas MILITARY PUBLICATIONS





